Prsent

His Ex^{ncy} the Govern^r & S^r Thomas Laurence Baron^t Secry Mr Attorney & Sollicitor Gen11 being sent for A Consultacon abt the Ship came accordingly to whom his Exncy was pleased Charles of to propose whether the Ship Charles of Topsham Topsham Richd Bass Master (being Accused for breach of the Acts of the 12th 14th & 15th of King Charles the Second for being an Unfree bottom & unqualifyed to Trade in this Province and a Tryall thereon having been had by a Speciall Court and Jury & being Returned upon the prmises not guilty by the Jury and Judgmt by the Court given for her discharge) may legally Load with Tobo & Export the same; who (after Some Consultacon thereon had) do say that his Exncy taking a Copy of the Proceedings of the sd Court together with a Copy of the Certificates from the Commission¹⁵ of his Ma¹⁵ Customs here produc'd by the sd Master and Remitting the same to the Rt hon the Lords of the Treasury for their Lordships Judgmts therein, and upon the st Bass'es giving Bond with Sufficient Security to Stand and abide their Lord Ships determination in the prmises, That then his Exncy may without any detrimt or damage permit the sd Ship to Load with Tobo and Export the same pursuant to the Tenr of his Bond passed in England.

By his Exncy the Govern &ca & Jan 18th 1696.

Whereas an Idle Report hath been lately spread Ordr abt an Idle Report abroad in this County of Ann Arrundell how that sent to be published in the ffleet is not to Sayle untill May, and that as of the Province if a Sort of Declaracon had been publickly Read last County Court to the sd Effect, which is a most abt the ffleets apparant and Notorious falsity; the Comodore having not yet prefixt the time, but will be shortly sent to upon that Accor Ordered therefore that the Sherff. of the sd County do imediately publish this throughout the Severall parts & prcinct. of his Bayliwick to the End the people may be undeceived and not give Credit to such foolish and palpable lyes & stories.

Signed p Ord Hen: Denton Cl Concil.